

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) An electronic thermometer comprising:

a display device (6) for displaying a measured temperature measurement in a predetermined display digit number;

5 a temperature measurement device (3) for generating a temperature measurement signal based on the temperature of ~~the associated object~~ an object under temperature measurement;

a computation device (5) for computing a temperature value of a digit number larger than the predetermined display digit number to be displayed on the display device (6) on the basis of the temperature measurement signal; and

10 a control device for controlling the display device to display a first temperature value portion and a second temperature value portion in ~~a time sharing~~ such a manner that the second temperature value portion is not displayed while the first temperature value portion is displayed and vice versa;

15 wherein the first temperature value portion is ~~displayed with~~ defined as a portion of the temperature value having a first set of predetermined digit or digits, and the second temperature value portion is ~~displayed with~~ defined as another portion of the temperature value having a second set of predetermined digit or digits including ~~any~~ all remaining digit or digits other than the first predetermined digit or digits.

21. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the second temperature value portion is defined as computed by the computation device includes a first portion of the temperature value having all remaining predetermined digit or digits numbers and a second portion of digit
5 numbers different other than the first set of predetermined digit or digits portion of numbers, and the control device controls the display device such that the first

~~portion and the second portion are displayed on the display device in a time-sharing manner.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first temperature value portion is defined as ~~by taking~~ a temperature value expanding from the highest digit down to a predetermined lower digit and the second temperature value portion is defined as ~~by taking~~ a temperature value expanding from the lowest digit up to a predetermined higher digit, ~~and the control device controls the display device in such a manner that the first temperature value portion and the second temperature value portion are alternately displayed on the display device.~~

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23. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first temperature value portion and the second temperature value portion are displayed on the display device ~~in one of alternately and in a time-sharing manner.~~

24. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first portion and the second portion are selected from the same temperature value computed by the computation device and are displayed on the display device.

25. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first portion and the second portion are selected from different temperature values computed by the computation device and are displayed on the display device.

26. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 24 ~~25~~, wherein the control device controls the display device to display the first and the second temperature value portions for every temperature measuring operation.

27. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 25 20, wherein the control device controls the display device to display the first or the second temperature value portions in a single temperature measuring operation.

28. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the control device controls the display device to display one of:
the first temperature value portion and then the second temperature value portion ~~in a time-sharing manner~~; and,
5 the second temperature value portion and then the first temperature value portion ~~in a time-sharing manner~~.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, further including:

an operation switch that the control device changes on the basis of a predetermined operation of the operation switch the display of the first
5 temperature value portion to the second temperature value portion or vice versa.

31. (Previously Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 21, wherein a temperature value computed by the computation device has four digits as expressed in one of Centigrade and Fahrenheit, the first temperature value portion consisting of a portion of the temperature value of higher three digits
5 while the second temperature value portion consists of a portion of the temperature value of the lowest fourth digit.

32. (Previously Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 22, wherein a temperature value computed by the computation device has four digits as expressed in one of Centigrade and Fahrenheit, the first temperature value portion consists of a portion of the temperature value of higher three digits

- 5 while the second temperature value portion consists of a portion of the temperature value of lower three digits.

33. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the control device controls the display device to take different display modes for the first and the second temperature value portions.

34. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 22, wherein the temperature value computed by the computation device has a decimal point and the control device controls the display device such that the decimal point is lighted when the first temperature value portion is displayed while
5 the decimal point is not lighted when the second temperature value portion is displayed.

35. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the display device displays the first temperature value portion in a lighting condition while the second temperature value portion in a blinking condition.

36. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, further including:

- an operation switch for initiating temperature measurement, wherein the control device switches a display of the first temperature value portion and the
5 second temperature value portion on the basis of an operation pattern of the operation switch.

37. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 36, wherein the control device detects an operation pattern of the operation switch at a time of initiation of temperature measurement.

38. (Cancelled).

39. (New) An electronic thermometer comprising:
- a display device having a fixed number of display digits;
 - a computation means for computing a temperature measured by a temperature measuring device to a number of digits larger than the fixed
- 5 number of display digits;
- a control means for controlling the display device to display alternately (1) most significant digits and (2) least significant digits of the computed measured temperature.

40. (New) A method of displaying temperature on a display device having a fixed number of display digits, the method comprising:
- computing a temperature measured by a temperature measuring device to a number of digits larger than the fixed number of display digits;
- 5 controlling the display device to display alternately (1) most significant digits and (2) least significant digits of the computed measured temperature.